

## 1444 Fulton Street, Suite 206, Fresno, CA 93721 (559) 441-7929 • info@fmbcc.com • www.fmbcc.com

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker United States House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20510

**Tara Lynn Gray** *Chief Executive Officer* 

Board of Directors

James Archie

President

Higher Vision Media

**Debra Bradley** Vice President Citizens Bank

**Dr. Cassandra Little**Secretary
CARE Consulting

Corey Jackson
Treasurer
ScrubCan

Brandon K. Gary Member at Large Building Better Communities Foundation

**T'Shaka Toure** *Member at Large*Toure & Associates

## RE: Letter of Support for Congressman Jim Costa for Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

We are writing to you to support Congressman Jim Costa becoming the next chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Congressman Costa is a longtime member of the committee and a representative of one of the world's most productive agricultural regions, California's Central Valley.

Congressman Costa has represented our region in elected office for decades, first in the California Legislature and now in Congress. California's 16th Congressional District, which he represents, includes parts of Fresno County, which is the largest agricultural producing county in the United States.

Congressman Costa understands the issues that affect agriculture and all the industries that are supported by it. He has also been a longtime advocate for federal nutrition programs, expansion of freight markets for U.S. farm products, workforce issues, immigration, agricultural research, natural resources, and on-farm conservation programs.

As a locally-based membership organization, the Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce engages, educates, and empowers small, diverse, Black businesses in the Fresno metropolitan area. Since our founding in 2001, we have continued to advocate for the greater African American community's interests, including equitable regional economic development, investments in infrastructure, quality jobs, and healthy communities. We enjoy the Congressman's support in our work and offer ours in turn.

We know that you are very familiar with your home state's agricultural industry and with Congressman Costa's excellent work as a representative of the Central Valley. We appreciate you taking the time to consider our opinion. As such, we hope you will agree that Congressman Costa chairing the House Agriculture Committee would be as good for California as it would be for our country.

Sincerely,

Tara Lynn Gray, CEO

Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce



## 1444 Fulton Street, Suite 206, Fresno, CA 93721 (559) 441-7929 • info@fmbcc.com • www.fmbcc.com

## Cc:

Congressman Collin Peterson Congressman David Scott Congresswoman Marcia Fudge Congressman Jim Costa Congressman Jim McGovern Congressman Filemón Vela Congresswoman Alma Adams Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger Congresswoman Jahana Hayes Congressman Antonio Delgado Congressman TJ Cox Congresswoman Angie Craig Congressman Anthony Brindisi Congressman Josh Harder Congresswoman Kim Schrier Congresswoman Chellie Pingree Congresswoman Cheri Bustos Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney Congressman Salud Carbajal Congressman Al Lawson Congressman Tom O'Halleran Congressman Jimmy Panetta Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick Congresswoman Cindy Axne Congresswoman Xochitl Torres Small Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett